

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Point Reyes National Seashore Point Reyes, California 94956

June, 2011

Dear Tule Elk Docent,

Welcome to the Tule Elk Docent Program at Point Reyes National Seashore. We're excited to have you as a volunteer and docent at the park.

This letter contains information you will need to know about the program and the upcoming training on June 25th and 26th. Additional information can be found at the Tule Elk Docent web site at http://www.nps.gov/pore/supportyourpark/volunteer_docent_info_tule_elk.htm, however some of the information and links may be outdated or inactive.

Paperwork

- 1. If you are a new docent to Point Reyes and have not done so already, **please fill out an application at http://www.nps.gov/pore/supportyourpark/volunteer_current.htm. Returning docents may skip this step.**
- 2. Visit the Tule Elk Docent web site at http://www.nps.gov/pore/supportyourpark/volunteer_docent_info_tule_elk.htm and download, print and complete the following forms:
 - Scheduling form
 - Volunteer Agreement form
 - CLETS form

Please bring the completed forms listed above to the training.

Online Training

Please complete the following online trainings before we meet on June 25th. I realize that there is not much time until then. Please do your best to complete these activities.

If you are a returning docent and have already completed these activities in a previous year, you are not required to do so unless you would like to review the material.

Introduction to the National Park Service

- 1. Visit http://www.eppley.org.
- 2. Click the "Log In" link at the top of the page and use the following email address and password:
 - i. Email address: doug_hee@nps.gov
 - ii. Password: "volunteer"
- 3. Click the "My Courses" link at the top of the page.
- 4. Complete the following courses by selecting the title link, then the "Enter Course" link on the page that follows. Read all the text on each page, however it is not necessary to follow the links for additional information. You do not need to take the course assessment or print a course certificate.
 - "Introduction to the National Park Service: The History of the NPS" (~ 40 min.)
 - "Introduction to the National Park Service: The Organization of the NPS" (~ 20 min.)
- 5. Visit the Tule Elk Docent web site at http://www.nps.gov/pore/supportyourpark/volunteer_docent_info_tule_elk.htm and download, print and complete the quizzes for each course. You may check your answers against the online keys.
- 6. Bring your completed quizzes to the training.

Rules and Regulations for Point Reyes National Seashore

- 1. Visit the Tule Elk Docent web site at http://www.nps.gov/pore/supportyourpark/volunteer_docent_info_tule_elk.htm.
- 2. Download and print the "Park Rules and Regulations Questionnaire" from the link on the right side of the web page. The answers to the training questions are found in the listed files. Once you answer the questions, correct your answers using the posted answer key
- 3. Bring your completed questionnaire to the training.

In-Person Training

New docents (including current and former winter wildlife and snowy plover docents): We look forward to seeing you at <u>both</u> days of the training.

Returning tule elk docents: We expect to see you on Saturday, June 25th. Please complete the online training described above if you have never done so in past years or would like to review the material. Attendance on Sunday, June 26th, however, is <u>optional</u>.

Please see the attached draft schedule for training topics.

Training for both days will take place in the Red Barn Classroom at Bear Valley. See below for directions. Each day, <u>check-in begins at 8:15 am; presentations begin at 8:30 am and will</u> conclude by 4:30 pm. Please arrive early on both days so that we can start on time.

We will stay at Bear Valley on Saturday, however we will be hiking part of Tomales Point on Sunday morning and returning to Bear Valley in the afternoon.

What to Bring

We will be providing snacks and beverages during the training. Please be prepared to bring the following:

For Saturday:

- Completed Scheduling Form, if not already submitted
- Signed Volunteer Agreement Form
- Signed CLETS Form
- Completed NPS History quiz
- Completed NPS Organization quiz
- Completed "Park Rules and Regulations" questionnaire

For Sunday:

- Footwear for hiking
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Hat for shade and for cold wind
- Sweater or jacket for cold wind and fog

The weather conditions at Tomales Point can include bright sun, cold wind, and thick fog. Please do what you can to prepare for all of these conditions.

For both days:

- Lunch and water
- Pen or pencil
- Paper for notes

I look forward to meeting you and working with you this summer. Please contact me with any questions you have. Thank you for deciding to volunteer at Point Reyes National Seashore!

Sincerely,

Doug Hee 415-464-5145

Directions to Point Reyes National Seashore Headquarters

From the city and points south:

- 1. Take Highway 101 North. Take the San Anselmo exit at the Richmond-San Rafael bridge/580 interchange. Stay to the left following the sign to San Anselmo. The offramp will take you under Highway 101.
- 2. You are now on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard heading west. Continue through Fairfax, San Geronimo and Samuel P. Taylor State Park. (40 min.)
- 3. Turn right at Highway 1 in Olema.
- 4. Follow the sign to Point Reyes National Seashore by turning left onto Bear Valley Road (just past the Point Reyes Seashore Lodge) (0.1 mi)
- 5. Turn left at the sign, "Point Reyes National Seashore." (0.5 mi.)
- 6. Drive down the road and follow the sign to the Red Barn Classroom by turning left onto the unpaved road.

From Downtown Petaluma on Petaluma Boulevard:

- 1. At the 7-eleven (right side of the road), turn right onto D street.
- 2. D street becomes the Petaluma-Point Reyes Road after it leaves town. Follow this road through Hicks Valley and past Nicasio Reservoir until you reach a three-way intersection.
- 3. Turn right at the intersection heading towards Point Reyes Station. You will cross a gold and graffiti-painted bridge just beyond the intersection. Follow this road until it ends at a stop sign at the junction with Highway 1.
- 4. Turn left onto Highway 1 heading south. Follow Highway 1 through the town of Point Reyes Station and continue south for approximately three miles to the town of Olema.
- 5. In Olema, you will pass on your right the Olema Ranch Campground, General Store and a church. After Marty Knapp Studio's, look for a sign that directs you to Point Reyes National Seashore. Turn right onto Bear Valley Road. (The right turn onto Bear Valley Road is somewhat hidden. If you reach the three-way intersection with a flashing red light above it, you went too far. Turn around and head back to Bear Valley Road.)
- 6. Turn left at the sign, "Point Reyes National Seashore." (0.5 mi.)
- 7. Drive down the road and follow the sign to the Red Barn Classroom by turning left onto the unpaved road.